Migration of people from rural areas to cities

† 1165. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arc aware of the fact that due to lack of jobs in many rural areas large number of people are migrating towards cities in order to get employment;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to make any arrangements to provide jobs to the people in rural areas itself in order to check their migration;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) Migration from rural areas to urban areas is due to many reasons, seeking employment being one among them. The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the schemes, *viz,* Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in the rural areas of the country for creating additional employment opportunities for the rural people. EAS is specially designed to create wage employment opportunities during the period of acute shortage of wage employment for rural persons.

Arsenic poisoning of ground water in West Bengal

1166. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to stop funding under the special Centrally sponsored scheme in West Bengal

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.